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Cardiff Road Newport South Wales NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference

P.91281 RCS

2. Patent application number (The Patent Office will fill this part in)

0406282.4

19 WAR 2004

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

ARROW THERAPEUTICS LIMITED Britannia House 7 Trinity Street London SE1 1DA

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

United Kingdom

4. Title of the invention

THERAPEUTIC COMPOUNDS

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

J. A. KEMP & CO.

14 South Square Gray's Inn London WC1R 5JJ

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

2600

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Country

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Date of filing
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| Description | 60 | |
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Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

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Signature(s)

SRINIVASAN, Ravi Chandran 020 7405 3292

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THERAPEUTIC COMPOUNDS

The present invention relates to a series of anti-viral benzodiazepine derivatives. In particular, it relates to a series of benzodiazepine derivatives which are (a) active against HCV and (b) interact with an inhibitor of the RSV fusion protein to provide an additive or synergistic therapeutic effect in treating or preventing an RSV infection.

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Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a major cause of respiratory illness in patients of all ages. In adults, it tends to cause mild cold symptoms. In school-aged children, it can cause a cold and bronchial cough. In infants and toddlers it can cause bronchiolitis (inflammation of the smaller airways of the lungs) or pneumonia. It has also been found to be a frequent cause of middle ear infections (otitis media) in pre-school children. RSV infection in the first year of life has been implicated in the development of asthma during childhood.

Current anti-RSV therapy involves the use of a monoclonal antibody to RSV, called palivizumab. Such use of palivizumab is a prophylactic, rather than therapeutic, treatment of RSV. However, although this antibody is often effective, it is expensive. Indeed, its expense means that it is unavailable for many people in need of anti-RSV therapy. There is therefore an urgent need for effective alternatives to existing anti-RSV therapy.

Small compounds which inhibit RSV replication by inhibiting the fusion (F) protein of RSV block the entry of the virus into the host cell and the exit from the host cell via syncytia formation. While these compounds have been shown to have high potency, RSV rapidly develops resistance to these compounds through mutations in the F protein (Morton, C.J. et al, 2003. Virology 311, 275-288).

PCT/GB03/04050 filed on 20 September 2003 discloses a series of benzodiazepine derivatives which inhibit RSV replication. Serial passaging experiments have indicated that resistance to these inhibitors is slow to develop and sequencing of resistant mutants did not reveal any significant changes in the F protein. It can therefore be assumed that these benzodiazepines have a common and novel mode of action, which does not involve inhibition of the F-protein.

It has now surprisingly been shown that a combination of (a) an RSV fusion protein inhibitor and (b) an anti-RSV benzodiazepine is highly active against RSV. Components (a) and (b) are found to have at least an additive effect. Further, it is also a finding of the invention that the two components interact synergistically, to provide a combined effect that is greater than the sum of the effects of the individual components.

The present invention therefore provides, in a first embodiment, a pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and

(a) an inhibitor of the RSV fusion protein; and:

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(b) a benzodiazepine derivative capable of inhibiting RSV replication.

It is a finding of the present invention that components (a) and (b) have at least an additive effect. The concepts of synergism and additivity are, of course, well known in the field of pharmacology. It is thus well established that a therapeutically useful additive combination is one in which the effect of the combination is greater than the larger of the effects produced by each of the components at the same concentrations as in the mixture. Thus, in the present case, a given formulation containing x wt% of component (a) and y wt% of component (b) has an activity which is at least as great as the activity of a formulation containing, as sole active ingredient, either x wt% component (a) or y wt% component (b).

In such additive combinations, the active ingredients are typically operating via different physiological pathways. In the present case, for example, component (a) and component (b) are believed to be inhibiting separate RSV proteins. An additive combination is therapeutically useful because it can achieve a therapeutically useful effect using lower concentrations of each active component. This enables the side-effects of the medication to be minimised. Thus, the additive combination can be formulated so that each active ingredient is present at a concentration which is subclinical in cells other than the target disease cells. The additive combination is nevertheless therapeutically effective in target cells which respond to both ingredients.

As regards component (a), an inhibitor of the RSV fusion protein can be identified by an assay comprising:

(a) labelling RSV with octadecyl rhodamine dye (R18);

- (b) pre-incubating the labelled virus with Hep-2 cells seeded in a 6-well plate at 1 hour for 4°C;
- (c) removing unattached virus;
- (d) adding the candidate fusion protein inhibitor;
- (e) incubating the 6-well plates at 37°C for 1 hour; and
 - (f) determining any increase in fluorescence, typically using a fluorescence microscope.

In the above assay, any increase in fluorescence signifies a fusion event. Thus, if no increase in fluorescence is detected, 100% inhibition is achieved. If the increase in fluorescence is equal to that observed with a corresponding assay in which a control of growth medium and solvent (e.g., growth medium with 10% fetal bovine serum and DMSO) is used in step (d) in place of the candidate fusion protein inhibitor, 0% inhibition is achieved. Accordingly the % inhibition achieved with the candidate fusion protein inhibitor can be determined by quantitative assessment of the fluorescence in step (f).

As used herein, component (a) is typically a compound which achieves at least 10%, more typically at least 30%, preferably at least 50% and most preferably at least 75%, inhibition of the RSV fusion protein as determined by the above assay.

Typically, component (a) is a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

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wherein:

- X is a direct link or C₁₋₆ alkyl; said C₁₋₆ alkyl being optionally substituted with halogen, oxo, cyano, hydroxyl, OCOR₄ or S(O)n-C₁₋₆ alkyl;

- Y is R_4 , NR_4R_5 , $NCOR_4$, $=N-OR_4$, $-CONHR_4$, $COOR_4$, $-OR_4$, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl or heterocyclyl, where R_4 and R_5 are H or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- Z is CR₆R₇, where R₆ and R₇ are independently H, or straight, branched or cyclic C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- 5 n is 1-2;
 - R₁ is CONR₄R₅, CO₂R₄ or C₁₋₆ alkyl, said C₁₋₆ alkyl can be optionally substituted with OR₄ or NR₈R₉;
 - R₈ and R₉ are each independently H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, SO₂R₅, CO₂R₄ or COR₄;
- R₂ is selected from the group consisting of NH₂, CONR₆R₇, heteroaryl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, CO₂R₄, N=CPh₂, C(=NH)NH₂ and C₁₋₆ alkyl; said alkyl optionally substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO2R₄ and OR₄;
 - R₁₀ and R₁₁ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, CO₂R₄, COR₄ and SO₂R₄,
- 15 R_3 is selected from the group consisting of (1) CO_2R_9 ; (2) C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with CN, OR_4 or NR_6R_7 ; and (3) C_{2-6} alkenyl substituted with CN;
 - Q is a member selected from the group consisting of

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A is C or N, optionally substituted with H, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, cyano-C₁₋₆ alkyl, CO₂R₄, aryl, benzoaminocarbonyl, hydroxybenzyl, SO₂NR₄R₅ or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl. Where A is carbon, it may also be optionally substituted by O or S via a double bond;

B is C or N; where B is C it may be optionally substituted by H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, NO₂, CN, halogen, COR₄, COOR₄, CONHR₄C(=NH)NH₂ or C(=NOH)NH₂.

Particularly preferred compounds of the invention are compounds of formula (Ia) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof

Wherein

B, X and Y are as described in formula (I) above

D is cyclopropyl, ethyl, 4-cyanobutyl, isopropenyl, methylsulfonyl,
 dimethylsulfamoyl, benzylaminocarbamoyl or para-hydroxybenzyl

Component (a) can also be a compound of formula (II), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

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$$Z-Y-N$$
 $R2$
 $R1$
 $R3$
 $R1$
 $R3$
 $R1$

wherein:

15 - X is C or N;

- R₁ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, halogen, phenyl or (CH₂)_m=NH₂;
- R_2 is C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkoxy-phenyl;
- R_3 is C_{1-6} alkyl;
- Y is C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkenyl;
- 20 Z is H, NR_4 , -C(=O)- R_5 , -C(=CH₂)- R_5 , -CH(OH)- R_5 , -CH(CH3)- R_5 , -CH(OCH3)- R_5 ;

- R_4 is H, C_{1-6} alkyl.
- R₅ is C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl
- m=1-6
- Component (a) can also be a compound of formula (III), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

10 wherein

- X is -N=C- or -CH=CH-;
- R₁ is H, hydroxyl, alkyl, halogen, nitro or alkoxy; said alkoxy being optionally monosubstituted with carboxy, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino or acetoamino;
- R₂ is pyrazolyl, triazolyl or tetrazolyl and optionally substituted by amino or alkyl.

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Component (a) can also be a compound of formula (IV), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The compound of formula (IV) is 4,4'-Bis-(4,6-bis-{3-[bis-(2-carbamoyl-ethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenylamino}-[1,3,5]triazin-2-ylamino)-biphenyl-2,2'-disulfonic acid.

Preferably, component (a) is:

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1-Cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one

 $\label{lem:control} \end{2-[2-(1,2-Dihydro-benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]] ethyl-diethyl-amine} amine$

{2-[2-(3-Iodo-2,3-dihydro-indazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzimidazol-1-yl]-ethyl}-dimethyl-amine

1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-2-one

1-(4-Hydroxy-benzyl)-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one

1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-oxo-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one

1-Ethyl-3-[1-(2-hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one

1-Ethyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one

7-[2-(3-Isopropenyl-2-oxo-2,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]-heptanenitril

5-{3-[1-(3-Methanesulfonyl-propyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-yl}-pentanenitrile

3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-carboxylic acid benzylamide

1-Methanesulfonyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one

3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-sulfonic acid dimethylamide

1-Isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-10 c]pyridine-2-one

Bis(5-amidino-2-benzimidazolyl)-methane

2-{2-[1-[1-(2-Amino-ethyl)-piperidin-4-ylamino]-4-methyl-benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl}-6-methyl-pyridin-3-ol

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In a further embodiment, the composition contains an RSV fusion inhibitor, as described above, and a benzodiazepine identifiable as having anti-RSV activity by the method of Example 8:

Typically, component (b) is a compound of formula (V), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

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$$(R^3)_{\overline{n}} = \begin{pmatrix} R^2 \\ N \\ N \\ R^4 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (V)

wherein:

R¹ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

- R² represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- each R³ is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, -CO₂R′, -CONR′R″, -NH-CO-R′, -S(O)R′, -S(O)₂R′, -NH-S(O)₂R′, -S(O)NR′R″ or -S(O)₂NR′R″, wherein each R′ and R″ is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- n is from 0 to 3;

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- R⁴ represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- R⁵ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)-, carbocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heterocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶;
 - X represents -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-; and
- R⁶ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl,

 carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆

 alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆

 hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl)-,

 aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-,

 heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein each R['] and R^{''} is the same or different

 and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl
 (C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆

 alkyl)-. Typically, R^{\(\tilde{I}\)} and R^{''} are not both hydrogen.

As used herein, a C_{1-6} alkyl group or moiety is a linear or branched alkyl group or moiety containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, such as a C_{1-4} alkyl group or moiety. Examples of C_{1-4} alkyl groups and moieties include methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl and t-butyl. For the avoidance of doubt, where two alkyl moieties are present in a group, the alkyl moieties may be the same or different.

As used herein, a hydroxyalkyl group is typically a said alkyl group that is substituted by one or more hydroxy groups. Typically, it is substituted by one, two or three hydroxy groups. Preferably, it is substituted by a single hydroxy group. Preferred hydroxyalkyl groups are (monohydroxy)ethyl groups.

As used herein, an acyl group is a C_{2-7} acyl group, for example a group -CO-R, wherein R is a said C_{1-6} alkyl group.

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As used herein, an aryl group is typically a C_{6-10} aryl group such as phenyl or naphthyl. Phenyl is preferred. An aryl group may be unsubstituted or substituted at any position. Typically, it carries 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents.

Suitable substitutents on an aryl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, $-CO_2R'$, -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', $-S(O)_2NR'R''$ -NH-S(O)₂R' or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl. Examples of suitable substituents on an aryl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, - CO_2R' , -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', - $S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', -NH- $S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

Preferred substituents on an aryl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R'$, -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$ and $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl. Examples of preferred substituents on an aryl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro and cyano.

Particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, nitro, $-CO_2R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$ and $-S(O)_2NH_2$, wherein R' represents C_{1-2} alkyl. Examples of particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro.

As used herein, references to an aryl group include fused ring systems in which an aryl group is fused to a monocyclic carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group or to a fused group which is a monocyclic carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group which is fused to a phenyl ring. Typically, said fused ring systems are systems in which an aryl group is fused to a monocyclic carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group. Preferred such ring systems are those wherein an aryl group is fused to a fused group which is a monocyclic heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group or to a monocyclic carbocyclic group fused to a phenyl ring, in particular those wherein an aryl group is fused to a heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group. Examples of such fused ring systems are groups in which a phenyl ring is fused to a thienyl group or to a tetrahydrofuranyl group to form a benzothienyl or dihydrobenzofuranyl group. Further examples of such fused rings are groups in which a phenyl ring is fused to a dioxanyl group, a pyrrolyl group or a 2,3-dihydroinden-1-one group to form a benzodioxinyl, indolyl or a 9H-fluoren-9-one group.

As used herein, a carbocyclyl group is a non-aromatic saturated or unsaturated monocyclic hydrocarbon ring, typically having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms. Preferably it is a saturated hydrocarbon ring (i.e. a cycloalkyl group) having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms. Examples include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl. It is preferably cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl. A cycloalkyl group may be unsubstituted or substituted at any position. Typically, it carries 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents.

Suitable substitutents on a carbocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, oxo, $-CO_2R'$, -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, $-NH-S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl. Examples of suitable substitutents on a carbocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, $-CO_2R'$, -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', $-NH-S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

Preferred substituents on an carbocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano and oxo. Examples of preferred substituents on an carbocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro and cyano. Particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, nitro and oxo. Examples of particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro. Further examples of particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro.

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As used herein, a heterocyclyl group is a non-aromatic saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic ring typically having from 5 to 10 carbon atoms, in which one or more, for example 1, 2 or 3, of the carbon atoms is replaced by a heteroatom selected from N, O and S. Saturated heterocyclyl groups are preferred. Examples include tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydrothienyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, dioxolanyl, thiazolidinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperidinyl, dioxanyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl and thioxanyl. Further examples include dithiolanyl, oxazolidinyl, tetrahydrothiopyranyl and dithianyl. Piperazinyl, piperidinyl and morpholinyl are preferred.

As used herein, references to a heterocyclyl group include fused ring systems in which a heterocyclyl group is fused to a phenyl group. Preferred such fused ring systems are those wherein a 5- to 6-membered heterocyclyl group is fused to a phenyl group. An example of such a fused ring system is a group wherein a 1H-imidazol-2(3H)-onyl group or a imidazolidin-2-onyl group is fused to a phenyl ring to form a 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl group. Most preferably, however, a heterocyclyl group is monocyclic.

A heterocyclic group may be unsubstituted or substituted at any position. Typically, it carries 0, 1 or 2 substituents.

Suitable substitutents on a heterocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbomyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, oxo, $-CO_2R'$, -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, $-NH-S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents

hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl. Examples of suitable substitutents on a heterocyclyl group include halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbomyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, $-CO_2R'$, -CONR'R'', -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$, -S(O)NR'R'', $-NH-S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

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Preferred substituents on a heterocyclyl group include halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano and oxo. Examples of preferred substituents on a heterocyclyl group include halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro and cyano. Particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, nitro and oxo. Examples of particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl and nitro. Further examples of particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl and nitro. Most preferably, a heterocyclyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two C₁₋₂ alkyl groups.

As used herein, a halogen is typically chlorine, fluorine, bromine or iodine. It is preferably chlorine, fluorine or bromine. It is more preferably chlorine or fluorine.

As used herein, an alkoxy group is typically a said alkyl group attached to an oxygen atom. An alkylthio group is typically a said alkyl group attached to a thio group. A haloalkyl or haloalkoxy group is typically a said alkyl or alkoxy group substituted by one or more said halogen atoms. Typically, it is substituted by 1, 2 or 3 said halogen atoms. Preferred haloalkyl and haloalkoxy groups include perhaloalkyl and perhaloalkoxy groups such as -CX₃ and -OCX₃ wherein X is a said halogen atom, for example chlorine or fluorine. Particularly preferred haloalkyl groups are -CF₃ and -CCl₃. Particularly preferred haloalkoxy groups are -OCF₃ and -OCCl₃.

As used herein, a heteroaryl group is typically a 5- to 10 membered aromatic ring, such as a 5- or 6-membered ring, containing at least one heteroatom, for example 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms, selected from O, S and N. Examples include pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl,

pyridazinyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrazolidinyl, pyrrolyl, oxadiazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl and pyrazolyl groups. Further examples include oxazolyl and isothiazolyl. Preferred heteroaryl groups are pyridyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, furanyl and pyrazolyl. Examples of preferred heteroaryl groups are pyridyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl and furanyl. As used herein, references to a heteroaryl groups include fused ring systems in which a heteroaryl group is fused to a phenyl group. Preferred such fused ring systems are those wherein a 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl group is fused to a phenyl group. Examples of such fused ring systems are benzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, quinolinyl, quinazolinyl and isoquinolinyl moieties. Most preferably, however, a heterocyclyl group is monocyclic.

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A heteroaryl group may be unsubstituted or substituted at any position. Typically, it carries 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents.

Suitable substitutents on a heteroaryl group include halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₇ acyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, -CO₂R', -CONR'R", -S(O)₂R', -S(O)₂R', -S(O)NR'R", -S(O)₂NR'R", -NH-S(O)₂R' or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl. Examples of suitable substitutents on a heteroaryl group include halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₇ acyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, -CO₂R', -CONR'R", -S(O)R', -S(O)₂R', -S(O)NR'R", -NH-S(O)₂R' or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl.

Preferred substituents on a heteroaryl group include halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro and cyano. Particularly preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl and nitro. Further preferred substituents include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl and di(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino.

As used herein, references to a heteroaryl group include fused ring systems in which a heteroaryl group is fused to a monocyclic said aryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl group, or to a

further heteroaryl group. Preferred such ring systems are those wherein a heteroaryl group is fused to an aryl group, for example a phenyl group. An example of such a fused ring system is a group wherein a thienyl group is fused to a phenyl ring to form a benzothienyl group. A further example of such a fused ring system is a group wherein a furanyl group is fused to a phenyl ring to form a benzofuranyl group.

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When R^1 in the formula (V) is an aryl or heteroaryl group it is typically unsubstituted or substituted by one, two or three substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkoxy. Preferably, it is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-4} haloalkyl or C_{1-4} haloalkoxy. More preferably, it is unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluorine, chlorine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl or C_{1-2} haloalkoxy substituent.

Typically, R^1 in the formula (V) is C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl. Preferably, R^1 is C_{1-2} alkyl or aryl. More preferably, R^1 is C_{1-2} alkyl or phenyl. More preferably, R^1 is phenyl.

Typically, R^2 in the formula (V) is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl. Preferably, R^2 is hydrogen.

Typically, R³ in the formula (V) is halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino or di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino. Preferably, R³ is fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ alkoxy, C₁₋₂ alkylthio, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino or di(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino. More preferably, R³ is methyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorine, chlorine or bromine. Most preferably, R³ is methyl or chlorine. An example of a most preferred group is when R³ is chlorine.

Typically, n in the formula (V) is 0, 1 or 2. Preferably, n is 0 or 1.

Typically, R^4 in the formula (V) is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl. Preferably, R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-2} alkyl. More preferably, R^4 is hydrogen or methyl. Most preferably, R^4 is hydrogen.

When R^5 in the formula (V) is a heterocyclyl group, it is typically attached via a carbon atom. Typically, R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, aryl- C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶. Examples of typical R^5 groups are those

wherein R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)- or $-XR^6$.

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Preferably, R⁵ in the formula (V) is C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, for example phenyl and dihydrobenzofuranyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl and benzothienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example piperidinyl, morpholinyl and piperazinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, for example benzyl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶. Examples of preferred R⁵ groups are those wherein R⁵ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, for example phenyl and dihydrobenzofuranyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl and benzothienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example piperidinyl, morpholinyl and piperazinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, for example benzyl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)- or -XR⁶.

More preferably, R^5 in the formula (V) is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzothienyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, phenyl- CH_2 -, furanyl- CH_2 -, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or - XR^6 . Examples of more preferred R^5 groups are those wherein R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzothienyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, phenyl- CH_2 -, furanyl- CH_2 - or - XR^6 .

Most preferably, R⁵ in the formula (V) is phenyl-CH₂-, furanyl-CH₂-, -C(O)-C(O)-thienyl or -XR⁶. Examples of most preferred R⁵ groups are those wherein R⁵ is phenyl-CH₂-, furanyl-CH₂- or -XR⁶.

Typically, X in the formula (V) is -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-. Preferably, X is -CO- or -S(O)₂-.

When R⁶ in the formula (V) is a group -NR'R" and either R' or R" includes an aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl moiety it is typically unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, nitro and cyano. Preferably, the aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄

haloalkoxy and nitro. An example of preferred substitution is when the aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro. More preferably, the aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl and nitro. An example of more preferred substitution is when the aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy or nitro substituent. When R' or R'' is a heteroaryl or heterocyclyl group, it is attached via a carbon atom.

Typically, R' and R'' in the group -NR'R'' in the formula (V) are not both hydrogen. Typically, each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)- or heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-. Examples of typical R' and R'' groups are those wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclohexyl or cyclopentyl, or phenyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-. Further examples of typical R' and R'' groups are those wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-(CH_2)-. Preferably, each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- CH_2 -, cyclohexyl or cyclopentyl. More preferably, one of R' and R'' represents hydrogen. Most preferably, one of R' and R'' is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- CH_2 -, cyclohexyl or cyclopentyl. As an additional preference, one of R' and R'' is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl or phenyl- CH_2 -.

Typically, R^6 in the formula (V) is C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-O- or -NR/R" wherein R' and R" are as defined above. Examples of typical R^6 groups are those wherein R^6 is C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl,

carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)- or -NR'R" wherein R' and R" are as defined above.

Preferably, R⁶ in the formula (V) is C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, for example phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl and indolyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl and benzofuranyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl and 1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2(3*H*)-onyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein R['] and R^{''} are as defined above. Examples of preferred R⁶ groups are those wherein R⁶ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, for example phenyl and dihydrobenzofuranyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl and benzothienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example N-heterocyclyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, for example benzyl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein R['] and R^{''} are as defined above.

More preferably, R^6 in the formula (V) is $C_{1.4}$ alkyl, $C_{1.4}$ alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl- $(C_{1-2}$ alkyl)-, phenyl- $(C_{1-2}$ alkyl)-O-, 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl or -NR/R" wherein R' and R" are as defined above. Example of most preferred R^6 groups are those wherein R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzothienyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, isoxazolyl, piperidinyl, for example N-piperidinyl, morpholinyl, for example N-piperazinyl, or -NR/R" wherein R^6 and $R^{\prime\prime}$ are as defined above.

Preferred compounds of the formula (V) are those in which:

- R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl;

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- R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;
- R³ is halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino or di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino or, preferably, R³ is

fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl, C_{1-2} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-2} alkyl)amino or di (C_{1-2} alkyl)amino;

- n is 0, 1 or 2;

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- R⁴ is hydrogen or C₁₋₄ alkyl;
- For all the second of the seco
 - X is -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-; and
- R⁶ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O- or -NR/R", wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)- or heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, the aryl moiety in the R¹ group being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl or C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy;

the aryl and heteroaryl moieties in the groups R⁵ and R⁶ being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₇ acyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbomyl, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, -CO₂R', -CONR'R", -S(O)R', -S(O)₂R', -S(O)NR'R", -S(O)₂NR'R", -NH-S(O)₂R' or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

the carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbomyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, oxo, $-CO_2R^{\prime}$, $-CONR^{\prime}R^{\prime\prime}$, $-S(O)_2R^{\prime}$, $-S(O)_2R^{\prime}$, $-S(O)_2NR^{\prime}R^{\prime\prime}$, -NH-

 $S(O)_2R'$ or -NH-CO-R', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

the alkyl moieties in the aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)- groups of R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by one or two hydroxy substituents.

Preferably, in these preferred compounds of formula (V), the aryl, heteroaryl and carbocyclyl moieties in the groups R' and R'' are unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro and cyano.

- 10 Further preferred compounds of formula (V) are those wherein:
 - R^1 is C_{1-2} alkyl or phenyl;
 - R² is hydrogen or C₁₋₄ alkyl;
 - R³ is methyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorine, chlorine or bromine;
 - n is 0 or 1;

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- 15 R⁴ is hydrogen or C₁₋₂ alkyl;
 - R⁵ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, for example phenyl and dihydrobenzofuranyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl and benzothienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example piperidinyl, morpholinyl and piperazinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, for example benzyl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶, provided that when R⁵ is heterocyclyl it is attached via a carbon atom;
 - $X \text{ is -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)}_2$ -; and
- R⁶ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, for example phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl and indolyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl and benzofuranyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl, heterocyclyl, for example piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl and 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein each R['] and R^{''} is the

same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, phenyl, heteroaryl, for example thienyl, carbocyclyl, for example cyclohexyl or cyclopentyl, or phenyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, the phenyl moiety in the R¹ group being unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl or C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy;

the aryl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R'$, -S(O)R', $-S(O)_2R'$ and $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

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the heteroaryl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro and cyano; and

the carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano and oxo; and

the alkyl moiety in the phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)- and heteroaryl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)- groups of R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by a single hydroxy substituent.

Preferably, in these further preferred compounds of formula (V), the phenyl, heteroaryl and carbocyclyl moieties in the groups R' and R'' are unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy and nitro.

Particularly preferred compounds of formula (V) are compounds of formula (Va) are pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof

wherein:

- R¹ is phenyl or methyl;
- $5 R^3$ is methyl or chlorine;
 - n is 0 or 1;
 - R⁴ is hydrogen or methyl;
 - R⁵ is phenyl-CH₂-, furanyl-CH₂-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶;
 - $X \text{ is -CO- or -S(O)}_2$ -; and
- 10 R⁶ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-CH₂-CH(OH)-, phenyl-CH(OH)-CH₂-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O-, 1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2(3*H*)-onyl or -NR[']R^{''} wherein each R['] and R^{''} is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-(CH₂)-, the phenyl moiety in the group R¹ being unsubstituted or substituted by a singlefluorine, chlorine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ alkoxy, C₁₋₂ alkylthio, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl or C₁₋₂ haloalkoxy substituent;

the aryl moieties in the groups R⁵ and R⁶ being unsubstituted or substituted by 1,2 or

3 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₂₋₄ acyl,
hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₄
alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino, nitro, -CO₂R', -S(O)₂R' and -S(O)₂NH₂, wherein R'
represents C₁₋₂ alkyl;

the heteroaryl moieties in the groups R⁵ and R⁶ being unsubstituted or substituted by

1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl and

di(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino; and

the heterocyclyl and carbocyclyl moieties in the R^6 group being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro.

Compounds of the formulae (I), (II), (III) or (V) containing one or more chiral centre may be used in enantiomerically or diasteroisomerically pure form, or in the form of a mixture of isomers. For the avoidance of doubt, the chemical structures depicted herein are intended to embrace all stereoisomers of the compounds shown, including racemic and non-racemic mixtures and pure enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers.

Preferred compounds of the formula (V) are optically active isomers. Thus, for example, preferred compounds of formula (V) containing only one chiral centre include an R enantiomer in substantially pure form, an S enantiomer in substantially pure form and enantiomeric mixtures which contain an excess of the R enantiomer or an excess of the S enantiomer. For the avoidance of doubt, the compounds of the formula (I) can, if desired, be used in the form of solvates.

As used herein, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a salt with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base. Pharmaceutically acceptable acids include both inorganic acids such as hydrochloric, sulphuric, phosphoric, diphosphoric, hydrobromic or nitric acid and organic acids such as citric, fumaric, maleic, malic, ascorbic, succinic, tartaric, benzoic, acetic, methanesulphonic, ethanesulphonic, benzenesulphonic or p-toluenesulphonic acid.

Pharmaceutical acceptable bases include alkali metal (e.g. sodium or potassium) and alkaline earth metal (e.g. calcium or magnesium) hydroxides and organic bases such as alkyl amines, aralkyl amines or heterocyclic amines.

Most preferably, component (b) is:

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

1,1-Diethyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-butyramide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isobutyramide;

2,2-Dimethyl-N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-

30 propionamide;

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Cyclopentanecarboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid 2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 3-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide: 4-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-trifluoromethylbenzamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-3-amide; Furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)-amide; Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; Morpholine-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 4-Nitro- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 3-Nitro- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 4-Methyl-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid -(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 3,4-Dichloro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide;

N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-trifluoromethyl-

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benzamide;

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| benzamide; |
| 2-Methyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| benzamide; |
| 2-Chloro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| benzamide; |
| 2-Nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; |
| 2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| benzamide; |
| (S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] |
| diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide |
| Benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; |
| 2,3-Dihydro-benzofuran-5-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; |
| Isoxazole-5-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] |
| diazepin-3-yl)-amide; |
| Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; |
| Thiophen-3-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] |
| diazepin-3-yl)-amide; |
| N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isonicotinamide; |
| N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-nicotinamide; |
| N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| methanesulfonamide; |
| Propane-1-sulfonic acid-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3- |
| yl)-amide; |
| Butane-1-sulfonic acid(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3- |

yl)-amide;

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2-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
      benzenesulfonamide;
             3-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
      benzenesulfonamide;
             4-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
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      benzenesulfonamide;
             2-Fluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
      benzenesulfonamide;
             3-(2-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
             3-(3-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
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             3-(4-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
             3-(2-Methoxy-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
             3-(3-Methoxy-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
             5-Phenyl-3-(2-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-
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      one;
             5-Phenyl-3-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-
      one;
             5-Phenyl-3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-
      one;
             3-[(Furan-2-ylmethyl)-amino]-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one;
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             N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;
            N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
     isobutyramide;
             N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
     methanesulfonamide;
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             Furan-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-
      benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
             Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-
     benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
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Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2methoxy-benzamide; N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-4-5 methoxy-benzamide; N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-nitrobenzamide: 2-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] 10 diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide; 2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide; 2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide; 15 2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)acetamide; 2-(3-Nitro-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)acetamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(2trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(3trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(4trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide; 25 . 1-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2-Nitro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea;

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1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-p-tolyl-urea; 1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5 urea; 1-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] 10 diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; (S)- 4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-15 benzamide; (S)- 5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)- 6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-20 1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)-2-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-4trifluoromethyl-benzamide; 2,4,5-Trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-25 benzamide; (S)-2,4,5-Trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2-Hydroxy- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide;

- (S)-2-Hydroxy- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
- 1H-Indole-7-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
- (S)-1H-Indole-7-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

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- 3-Methoxy-naphthalene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
- (S)-3-Methoxy-naphthalene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-10 benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
 - N-[7-Chloro-5-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepine-3-yl]-4-methoxoy-benzamide;
 - 1-(2-Fluoro-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
- 15 1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - 1-(3-Methyl-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
- 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(4-trifluoromethyl-20 phenyl)-urea;
 - 4-Chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
 - 4-Methoxy-3-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide;
- 3-Methoxy-2-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
 - 5-Chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide;
- 5-Fluoro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-30 benzamide;

2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-

benzamide; 5-Methoxy-2-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 3-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5 benzamide; 3-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)propionamide; 3-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide; 10 3-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-2methoxy-benzamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-15 4-methoxy-benzamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-2-nitro-benzamide: N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-20 4-nitro-benzamide; 4-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 4-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-25 benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 2-Ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2,4-Dimethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-30 benzamide:

2-Bromo-5-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-[5-(3-mehtoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide 5 N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-4-nitro-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-(8-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)-benzamide; 2-Chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] 10 diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 2-Dimethylamino-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-· benzamide; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid benzyl ester; 15 1-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(4trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-urea; 1-(4-Bromo-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-20 benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(4-Bromo-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(2,3-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 25 1-(2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2-Chloro-6-methyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-30 urea;

| | 1-(2-Metnylsuitanyi-phenyi)-5-(2-0x0-5-phenyi-2,5-dhrydro-111-0ch20[0][1,4] | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | diazepin-3-yl)-urea; | | | | | | | |
| | 1-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] | | | | | | | |
| | diazepin-3-yl)-urea; | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 5-tert-Butyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] | | | | | | | |
| | diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| | 2,5-Dimethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | | | | | | |
| | benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| | 1-(2,6-Difluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] | | | | | | | |
| 10 | diazepin-3-yl)-urea; | | | | | | | |
| | 1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | | | | | | |
| | urea; | | | | | | | |
| | 1-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] | | | | | | | |
| | diazepin-3-yl)-urea; | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(3-trifluoromethyl- | | | | | | | |
| | phenyl)-urea; | | | | | | | |
| | 1-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | | | | | | |
| | urea; | | | | | | | |
| | 2-Methoxy-4-methylsulfanyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] | | | | | | | |
| 20 | diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| | 4-Methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | | | | | | |
| | benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| | N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)terephthalamic acid | | | | | | | |
| | methyl ester; | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 2-Fluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide | | | | | | | |
| | 2,6-Difluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | | | | | | |
| | benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| | N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-propoxy- | | | | | | | |
| | benzamide; | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 2-Jodo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; | | | | | | | |

- 3-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-terephthalamic acid methyl ester;
- 4-Amino-5-chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

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- 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-m-tolyl-urea;
 - 2-Methylsulfanyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
 - 2-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5-sulfamoyl-benzamide;
- 2-Hydroxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-phenyl-propionamide
 - 3-Hydroxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-phenyl-propionamide;
 - 3-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-1-methyl-1-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - 2-Methoxy-N-methyl-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
 - 1-tert-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - 1-Cycloheyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - 1-Ethyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - 1-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
 - . 4,5-Dimethyl-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)amide;
 - Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
 - N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)acetamide;
 - N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide;

Furan-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

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urea;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]isonicotinamide;

5-Methyl-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide;

Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Piperidine-4-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (8-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (8-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-thiophene-2-yl-

1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-thiophene-3-ylurea; Pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 1H-Pyrazole-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 6-Dimethylamino-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)nicotinamide; 2-Ethoxy-naphthalene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 9-Oxo-9H-fluorene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 2-Oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazole-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)carbamic acid tert-butyl ester; (S)-4,5-Dibromo-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)-Benzofuran-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid methyl ester; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid ethyl ester; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid isobutyl ester; and 2-Oxo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-thiophene-2-yl-acetamide,

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The compounds of formulae (I), (II), (III) and (IV) are known compounds. They are disclosed, for example, in WO 00/195910, WO 00/004900, WO 03/053344, US-A-4324794 and WO 01/00612, and can be prepared by the processes set out in those documents.

Compounds of formula (V) may be prepared by reacting glyoxylic acid (HCO- CO_2H), benzotriazole and an appropriate benzyl carbamate at reflux in toluene, under Dean-Stark conditions giving the key protected amino acid of formula (Π')

The thus obtained amino acid of formula (Π') can then be reacted with a suitable chlorinating agent, such as oxalyl chloride, followed by reaction with a 2-aminobenzophenone of formula (Π')

$$(R^3)_n \xrightarrow{NHR^2 O} R^1 \qquad (III')$$

to give the intermediate amide of formula (IV')

which need not be characterized.

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The compound of formula (IV') can then be subjected to ammonolysis followed by ring closure in acetic acid containing ammonium acetate to obtain the protected benzodiazepine of formula (V')

$$(R^3)_n$$
 R^2
 (V')
 R^4
 (V')

The compound of formula (V') can then be deprotected using hydrogen bromide in acetic acid to yield the deprotected amine of formula (VI').

Compounds of formula (V), in which R⁵ is XR⁶ and X is -CO- can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VI'), as defined above, with an acid anhydride in a suitable solvent, preferably pyridine at ambient temperature, or with an acid chloride in a suitable solvent in the presence of a base, preferably in THF at ambient temperature with triethylamine present. Alternatively, the compounds can be produced by reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with an acid in a suitable solvent in the presence of a base and a coupling agent, preferably in THF at ambient temperature with triethylamine and O-benzotriazol-1-yl-N, N, N', N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) present.

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If the acid chloride used is an amino carbonyl chloride, the compound of formula (V) is a tertiary urea. In the case where R⁶ is NH-R', such compounds may be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with an isocyanate. This reaction is preferably

carried out in THF at ambient temperature. Alternatively, the isocyanate may be prepared *in situ* from the relevant amine and phosgene, in the presence of a base, usually triethylamine, again in THF.

Compounds of formula (V), in which R^5 is $-XR^6$ and X is $-S(O)_2$ - may be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with a suitable sulfonyl chloride. Similarly, compounds of formula (V), in which R^5 is XR^6 and X is -S(O)- may be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with a suitable sulfinyl chloride

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Compounds of formula (V) in which R⁵ is not XR⁶ may be prepared by known methods. For example, a compound of formula (VI') can be reacted with a compound of formula R⁵-L, wherein L is a leaving group such as a chlorine atom, a mesylate group or a triflate group. When R⁵ is aryl or heteroaryl, L can be -B(OH)₂ and the reaction may take place in the presence of copper acetate. Such boronic acid coupling reactions will, of course, be familiar to those of skill in the art. Compounds wherein R⁵ is aryl or heteroaryl may also be prepared by way of a Buchwald reaction or by reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with an appropriate fluoroaryl or fluoroheteroaryl compound. Compounds wherein R⁵ is a heteroaryl group may also be prepared by reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with a suitable chloroheteroaryl or bromoheteroaryl compound. Compounds wherein R⁵ is a carbocyclyl group may also be prepared by known methods, for example a compound wherein R⁵ is cyclohexyl may be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with cyclohexanone in the presence of a reducing agent.

Compounds of formula (V) in which the R⁵ group is aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- can also be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (VI') with an aldehyde in the presence of a reducing agent. Preferably, such reactions between compounds of formula (VI') and aldehydes are carried out in a mixture of dichloromethane and acetic acid in the presence of sodium (triacetoxy)borohydride at ambient temperature.

In the preparation of the benzodiazepine skeleton, commercially available aminobenzophenone compounds of formula (III') can be used where possible. Compounds

of formula (III') which are not commercially available can be prepared by known methods, for example by reaction of a Weinreb type amide of formula (VII')

$$(R^3)_n$$
 OMe NH_2 (VII')

with a group R¹-Li or a Grignard reagent such as R¹-MgBr. Preferably this reaction is carried out in THF at -100°C.

Compounds of formula (VII') are known compounds or can be prepared by analogy with known methods. For example, they can be prepared from the reaction of isatoic anhydrides of formula (VIII')

$$(R^3)_n$$
 (VIII')

with N,O-dimethyl hydroxylamine under standard reaction conditions.

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The starting materials of formula (II'), (III'), (VII'), and (VIII') are known compounds, or may be prepared by analogy with known methods.

Further synthetic manipulation of the thus obtained compounds of formula (V) may be carried out by conventional methods to achieve further compounds of formula (V). The benzodiazepines of formula (V) can be salified by treatment with an appropriate acid or base.

Although the described route to the claimed compounds provides an adequate synthesis for laboratory scale preparations, an alternative route was sought which has potential as a manufacturing route. The same starting material (2-amino-benzophenone) (1) is used in both, however in the alternative route, the benzodiazepine ring system is formed by reaction initially with bromoacetyl bromide (or an equivalent reagent) followed by ring closure with ammonia. These reactions are carried out in a suitable solvent, such as

dichloromethane, and at a suitable temperature which may range from -20 to 150°C. In order to protect the NH functionality, at this stage the unsubstituted benzodiazepine is reacted with a base, and an alkylating agent. For instance sodium hydride in DMF followed by addition of 4-methoxy-benzyl chloride gives rise to the intermediate (2) shown below. Further reaction of this material with a base (e.g. potassium tert-butoxide) in a suitable solvent (e.g. THF or DMF) followed by quenching with isoamyl nitrite (or an alternative similar reagent) furnishes the oxime intermediate (3) which may be converted into the racemic primary amine by methods which include the use of hydrogen and a suitable catalyst. This amine then undergoes a Dynamic Kinetic Resolution (DKR) procedure by which the racemic amine in the presence of a suitable optically active acid, and a suitable aldehyde gives rise to precipitation of the salt of the desired (S)-amine (4) in good yield and exceptionally high enantiomeric excess. A suitable acid for this conversion can be e.g. Camphorsulfonic acid, Boc-phenyl alanine or the like, and a suitable aldehyde may be a benzaldehyde such as 3,5-dichloro salicylaldehyde.

The optically amine thus formed may then be transformed into a desired derivative, such as an amide or urea. The amide formations may be carried out using a suitable carboxylic acid and a coupling reagent, or a carbonyl chloride or other suitable reagent, and the ureas prepared using aeither a suitable isocyanate, or alternatively reaction with phosgene followed by a suitable amine.

These derivatives thus formed may then have the protecting group removed. This may be carried out in the presence of a Lewis Acid, such as aluminium chloride, boron trifluoride, titanium tetrachloride, or the like. These reactions are carried out in a suitable inert solvent, such as dichloromethane. Reaction temperatures may range from -20 to 150°C, but are typically carried out at room temperature or below.

In a particularly preferred embodiment of the invention, component (a) is 1cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydroimidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one, 2-[2-(1,2-dihydro-benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1yl]]ethyl}-diethyl-amine, {2-[2-(3-iodo-2,3-dihydro-indazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzimidazol-1-yl]ethyl}-dimethyl-amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and component (b) is
(S)-1-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea,
(S)-2-methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide, (S)-4-methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The present invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, for use in the treatment of the human or animal body. Also provided is the use of

(a) a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor and (b) a said benzodiazepine derivative, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection.

The present invention also provides a method of treating or preventing an RSV infection in a patient, which method comprises the administration to said patient of (a) a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor and (b) a said benzodiazepine derivative.

Typically, the amount of component (a) in the composition of the invention is from 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%, preferably from 0.25 wt% to 5 wt%, more preferably from 1 wt% to 3.5 wt%, for example about 2.5 wt%, based on the total weight of the composition.

Typically, the amount of component (b) in the composition of the invention is from 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%, preferably from 0.25 wt% to 5 wt%, more preferably from 1 wt% to 3.5 wt%, for example about 2.5 wt%, based on the total weight of the composition.

Typically, the total amount of components (a) and (b) in the composition of the invention is from 0.05 to 20 wt%, preferably from 0.5 to 10 wt%, more preferably from 2 to 7 wt%, for example about 5 wt%, based on the total weight of the composition.

RSV is prevalent among children younger than two years of age, adults suffering from asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD) or immunodeficiency and the elderly. It is a particularly serious risk amongst children who suffer from chronic lung disease. Accordingly, the said composition or medicament is typically for use in treating a patient who is a child under two years of age, patients with asthma, COPD or immunodeficiency the elderly or persons in long term care facilities. Typically, said child suffers from chronic lung disease.

Further, anti-RSV prophylaxis is recommended for infants born at 32 weeks of gestation or earlier, until they reach 6 months of age, the elderly, persons with immunedeficiency and those in long term care facilities. Accordingly, the said composition or medicament is typically for use in preventing RSV infection in an infant less than 6 years of age, who was born after 32 weeks of gestation or less, the elderly, persons with immunosufficiency and those in long term care facilities.

As described above, RSV strains upon exposure to fusion inhibitors known in the art rapidly develop resistance. In order to minimize the risk of development of resistance to fusion inhibitors it is desirable to combine them with another inhibitor of RSV replication with a different mode of action. To our knowledge, the benzodiazepine derivatives disclosed above are the first class of compounds with a novel mode of action. Accordingly, the

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compositions of the invention are characterized by a very low resistance profile, which makes them particularly suitable for therapeutic and prophylactic applications.

The present invention also covers situations where components (a) and (b) are administered separately. Thus, for example, component (a) can be administered up to 24 hours before component (b). Alternatively, component (b) can be administered up to 24 hours before component (a). More usually, when components (a) and (b) are administered separately, they are administered within 12 hours, preferably within 6 hours, of each other.

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The present invention therefore also provides a product comprising (a) a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor and (b) a said benzodiazepine derivative for separate, simultaneous or sequential use in the treatment of the human or animal body. Typically, said product is for separate, simultaneous or sequential use in treating or preventing an RSV infection.

Also provided is the use of a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection by co-administration with a said benzodiazepine derivative. The present invention also provides the use of a said benzodiazepine derivative in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection, by co-administration with a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor.

When components (a) and (b) are administered separately, they are typically formulated as described above. The amount of active ingredient in each separate formulation will, of course, correspond to the amount of component (a) or (b) given above for the combined formulation. Thus, when components (a) and (b) are administered separately, a first formulation is typically provided which contains from 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%, preferably from 0.25 wt% to 5 wt%, more preferably from 1 wt% to 3.5 wt%, for example about 2.5 wt%, of a said RSV fusion protein inhibitor, based on the total weight of the formulation. Similarly, a second formulation is typically provided which contains from 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%, preferably from 0.25 wt% to 5 wt%, more preferably from 1 wt% to 3.5 wt%, for example around 2.5 wt%, of a said benzodiazepine derivative, based on the total weight of the formulation. The two formulations can be administered separately in any order.

Preferably, the compositions and medicaments of the invention have an activity greater than the combined individual activities of compounds (a) and (b). Thus, components (a) and (b) typically interact synergistically. Preferably, therefore, in the formulations and

the medicaments of the invention, component (a) and component (b) are each present in an amount producing a synergistic therapeutic effect in treating or preventing an RSV infection.

It has also surprisingly been found that the benzodiazepine derivatives of the formula (V), and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, are active against the Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Thus in a further embodiment the present invention provides the use of a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V), as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing a hepatitis C infection.

In this embodiment, the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is preferably: N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-N'-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzyl)-urea

(S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea

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- (S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide
- 1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea

Furan-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide

2-Methoxy-N-methyl-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide.

Also provided is a method of treating or preventing a hepatitis C infection in a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V), as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The anti-RSV compositions of the invention and the anti-HCV benzodiazepines of the formula (V) may be administered in a variety of dosage forms. Thus, they can be administered orally, for example as tablets, troches, lozenges, aqueous or oily suspensions, dispersible powders or granules. The compounds of the invention may also be administered parenterally, whether subcutaneously, intravenously, intramuscularly, intrasternally,

transdermally or by infusion techniques. The compounds may also be administered as suppositories.

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In a preferred embodiment, administration is by intravenous, intranasal or intrabronchial means. In particular, formulations for treating or preventing RSV can advantageously be administered intranasally. The present invention therefore also provides an inhaler or nebuliser containing a medicament which comprises (i) a composition of the invention comprising component (a) and component (b), as defined above, and (ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

The anti-RSV compositions of the invention and the anti-HCV benzodiazepines of the formula (V) are typically formulated for administration with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. For example, solid oral forms may contain, together with the active compound(s), diluents, e.g. lactose, dextrose, saccharose, cellulose, corn starch or potato starch; lubricants, e.g. silica, talc, stearic acid, magnesium or calcium stearate, and/or polyethylene glycols; binding agents; e.g. starches, arabic gums, gelatin, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose or polyvinyl pyrrolidone; disaggregating agents, e.g. starch, alginic acid, alginates or sodium starch glycolate; effervescing mixtures; dyestuffs; sweeteners; wetting agents, such as lecithin, polysorbates, laurylsulphates; and, in general, non toxic and pharmacologically inactive substances used in pharmaceutical formulations. Such pharmaceutical preparations may be manufactured in known manner, for example, by means of mixing, granulating, tableting, sugar coating, or film coating processes.

Liquid dispersions for oral administration may be syrups, emulsions and suspensions. The syrups may contain as carriers, for example, saccharose or saccharose with glycerine and/or mannitol and/or sorbitol.

Suspensions and emulsions may contain as carrier, for example a natural gum, agar, sodium alginate, pectin, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, or polyvinyl alcohol. The suspension or solutions for intramuscular injections may contain, together with the active compound, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g. sterile water, olive oil, ethyl oleate, glycols, e.g. propylene glycol, and if desired, a suitable amount of lidocaine hydrochloride.

Solutions for injection or infusion may contain as carrier, for example, sterile water or preferably they may be in the form of sterile, aqueous, isotonic saline solutions.

Preferably, the anti-RSV compositions of the invention and the anti-HCV benzodiazepines of the formula (V) are solubilised in a carrier containing (a) a pharmaceutically acceptable oil selected from esterification or polyether products of glycerides with vegetable oil fatty acids of chain length C₈-C₁₀ and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable surfactant selected from oleate and laurate esters of a polyalcohol copolymerized with ethylene oxide. Particularly preferred carriers contain Labrafil as the oil and Tween 20 or Tween 80 as the surfactant.

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The anti-RSV compositions of the invention and the anti-HCV benzodiazepines of the formula (V) may also be suspended in PEG 400 for oral administration.

A therapeutically effective amount of an anti-RSV composition of the invention or an anti-HCV benzodiazepine of the invention is administered to a patient. A typical dose is from about 0.001 to 50 mg, typically 0.5 to 30 mg, preferably 1 to 20 mg active ingredient per kg of body weight, according to the activity of the specific composition, the age, weight and conditions of the subject to be treated, the type and severity of the disease and the frequency and route of administration. Preferably, daily dosage levels are from 5 mg to 2 g active ingredient.

The following Examples illustrate the invention. They do not however, limit the invention in any way. In this regard, it is important to understand that the particular assays used in the Examples section are designed only to provide an indication of antiviral activity. There are many assays available to determine the activity of given compounds against RSV and HCV, and a negative result in any one particular assay is therefore not determinative.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1sulfonic acid dimethylamide, 1-Methanesulfonyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one, 3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-carboxylic acid benzylamide, 5-{3-[1-(3-Methanesulfonyl-propyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-yl}-pentanenitrile, 7-[2-(3-Isopropenyl-2-oxo-2,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl)-10 benzoimidazol-1-yl]-heptanenitril, 1-Ethyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one, 1-Ethyl-3-[1-(2-hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethyl)-1Hbenzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one, 1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-oxobutyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one, 1-(4-Hydroxybenzyl)-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-15 one, 1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-2-one, 1-Cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one and 1-Isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1Hbenzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one are prepared as described in WO00195910 20

Example 2

{2-[2-(1,2-Dihydro-benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]]ethyl}-diethyl-amine is prepared as described in WO00004900.

Example 3

{2-[2-(3-Iodo-2,3-dihydro-indazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzimidazol-1-yl]-ethyl}-dimethyl-amine is prepared as described in WO03053344.

Example 4

Bis(5-amidino-2-benzimidazolyl)-methane is prepared as described in US4,324794.

Example 5

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2-{2-[1-[1-(2-Amino-ethyl)-piperidin-4-ylamino]-4-methyl-benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl}-6-methyl-pyridin-3-ol is prepared as described in WO0100612.

Example 6

Compounds of general formula (V) are prepared as described in PCT/GB03/04050.

15 Example 7

Determination of RSV fusion inhibitor activity

RSV enters the host cell via attachment to and fusion with the host cell membrane.

The effect of an inhibitor on the specific virus-cell fusion event can be qualitatively determined by using a fluorescence de-quenching system.

The design of this assay takes advantage of the fact that RSV binds to cells at 4°C and at 37°C but that fusion may only occur at concentrations above 18°C.

RSV labelled with octadecyl rhodamine dye (R18) is pre-incubated with Hep-2 cells seeded in a 6-well plate for 1 hour at 4°C to allow binding to occur. Unattached virus is removed by washing the cell monolayer. The inhibitor is then added to the virus-cell complexes prior to transferring the plates to 37°C for 1 hour in order to induce fusion. Virus-cell fusion can be observed directly under a fluorescence microscope. Fluorescence emission is quenched when 2 identical fluorophores are in close proximity. Upon fusion of the labelled virus with the cell membrane, the distance between fluorophores is increased due

to dye spread and there is a decrease in quenching. This is observed as an increase in fluorescence intensity of R18. It therefore follows that inhibition of fusion would lead to a decrease in fluorescence of R18 compared to untreated control. Where the fluorescent yield of R18 in the presence of inhibitor is comparable to the untreated control this would suggest the inhibitor were not exerting its effects on the fusion protein.

Example 8

Determination of RSV replication inhibitor activity

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The inner 60 wells of 96 well tissue culture plates are seeded with Hep-2 cells at $4x10^4$ cells/well for compound activity and toxicity studies in $100\mu l$ of medium and incubated at 37° C overnight or until nearing confluency.

15 Cells are infected with 25 μl RSV, e.g. the RSS strain, previously titrated to give 80% cell kill. To each well 25 μl m of test compound are added. The final DMSO concentration is 0.5%. Some 200 μl of sterile distilled water is added to the outer wells of the plate and incubated at 37°C for 6 days. Some 0.25 μl/ml PMS are added to stock XTT solution, final conc. 25 μM PMS. Then 25 μl warmed XTT/PMS solution is added to each well and incubated for 1 hour at 37°C.

Maximum OD_{450nm} reading (uninfected, untreated control cells) corresponds to 100% inhibition. Minimum OD_{450nm} readings (infected control cells) corresponds to 0% inhibition. Log10 concentration is plotted against OD_{450nm} and IC₅₀ values are calculated from either reading 50% value from graph or using regression analysis.

Example 9

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Synergistic action between RSV fusion inhibitor and anti-RSV benzodiazepines

ELISA experiments were carried out on the combined effect of potent benzodiazepine RSV replication inhibitor (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea (compound A) with one RSV fusion inhibitor selected from 1-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one (compound B) or 1-isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one (compound B)

ELISA PROTOCOL

Mouse monoclonal antibodies to the phosphoprotein (P), nucleocapsid (N) & fusion (F) proteins of RSV and a rabbit anti-mouse- horseradwash peroxidase (HRP) conjugated secondary antibody were used to demonstrate a reduction in RSV antigen via conversion of the o-phenylene diamine dihydrochloride (OPD) substrate to a coloured product. This was quantified by optical density (OD) measurement.

Method

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This assay was set up using all 96 wells of flat-bottomed 96-well plates. The outer wells were not subjected to any greater amount of evaporation than the inner wells during the 3 day assay period. (ie. No "edge effect" seen).

Plates were set up one day before addition of virus and compounds. The assay then ran for 3 days with ELISA development taking place on the 4th day.

25 <u>Day 0</u>

Set up of Assay Plates

All 96 wells of a microtitre plate were seeded at a density of 5x10³ Hep-2 cells/well in 100µl/well of Growth Medium (GM) consisting of Dulbecco's MEM (DMEM) with

Glutamax-1, Sodium Pyruvate, 1000 mg/l glucose and pyridoxine (Invitrogen, catalogue number 21885-025) and supplemented with 10%FBS. (See Plate 1).

In tissue culture, the cells adhere to the tissue culture flask and were grown at 37° C, 5% CO₂ until 90% confluent.

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Monolayers were washed with 20ml sterile PBS to remove serum and treated with 1ml trypsin to detach cells from the flask.

Cells were suspended in a small known volume of growth media and counted using a

haemocytometer. The cell suspension was made up to the desired concentration in growth
medium and added to wells by multichannel pipette. Brief, gentle shaking encouraged the
cells to disperse more evenly across the well.

Plate 1

| Cells |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Cells |
| Cells |
| Cells |
| Cells |
| Cells |
| Cells |
| Cells |

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Plates were kept undisturbed at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ atmosphere for 24hrs during which time the cells settle to form an even cell monolayer.

20 Day 1

Addition of Virus

A frozen vial of RSV (RSS strain provided by Virogen Ltd) stock solution was removed from the -80 freezer or liquid nitrogen store and diluted to a known Multiplicity of Infection (m.o.i) in Growth Medium.

The m.o.i. was calculated by prior titration of the virus stock (by the ELISA assay method) as the virus input required to achieve a window of <u>at least</u> 0.8 OD units between infected and uninfected control wells.

Multiplicity of Infection = <u>plaque forming units per well (pfu/well)</u> number of cells per well

25μl of diluted virus was added to infected, "virus+", wells by multichannel pipette; 25μl of Growth Medium was added to uninfected, cell control wells (CC) by multichannel pipette.
 (See Plate 2)

15 Plate 2

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| CC | [virus+] | virus+ |
|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| CC | [virus+] | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |
| virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ | virus+ |

Sides of plates were marked with stripes to identify plates in the event of lids becoming separated.

20 Plates were incubated at 37°C for 1hr to allow virus adsorption.

Compound Dilutions

Compound "A" was titrated vertically down the plate and Compound "B" was titrated horizontally across the plate, creating a chequerboard. The 2 compounds were titrated at ½-log dilutions in duplicate wells in the presence of virus. Compound "A" was titrated across a 6- or 8-point dilution series (vertically). Compound "B" was titrated across a 5-or 6-point dilution series (horizontally). The variation in the number of dilution points depended on whether additional cell controls replaced "virus+" wells in the plate set-up (identified as [virus+] in Plate 2) for an individual assay. The dilution range covered concentrations from just above the compound IC50 to several ½ log dilutions below the compound IC50 and included a 0μM control for each compound.

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Compounds were made up in a separate microtitre plate at 12x strength in GM containing 3% DMSO (a final DMSO concentration in the assay of 0.5%). 12.5µl of the Compound "A" dilution series and 12.5µl of the Compound "B" dilution series were then transferred to the appropriate wells of the assay plate by multichannel pipette, according to the marked out chequerboard.

12.5μl of GM (containing 3% DMSO) was added to wells receiving 0μM Compound "A" or 0μM Compound "B". 25μl GM (containing 3% DMSO) was added to wells containing neither compound.

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Virus infected, untreated wells served as the virus control (VC); Uninfected, untreated wells serve as the cell control (CC). The difference in absorbance between CC and VC wells constitutes the assay window.

25 Plates were incubated at 37°C, 5% CO₂ for 3 days.

ELISA Stage

Day 4

Media was tapped out from wells directly into Virkon (1% solution in water) and plates were washed by immersing in a plastic box containing PBS.

50μl/well of 75%/25% vol/vol acetone/methanol fixative was added by multichannel pipette and left for 3mins.

Acetone/methanol was discarded from wells into Virkon and wells were washed with PBS as above.

Some 200µl of blocking solution (2% Marvel in PBS containing 0.05% Tween) was added per well by multichannel pipette. Plates were incubated at 37°C in a shaking incubator for 60mins.

Block solution was discarded down the sink and diluted primary antibody was added directly to wells (ie. no washing required).

RSV mouse monoclonal antibody NCL-RSV3 (Novocastra) was diluted 1/400 in PBS/2% Marvel/0.05% Tween and $50\mu l$ was added per well. Plates were incubated at $37^{\circ}C$ in a shaking incubator for 90mins.

Antibody was discarded down the sink and plates were washed 4 times by immersion in PBS/0.05% Tween.

DAKo rabbit anti-mouse HRP conjugate (DAKO catalogue number P0260) was diluted

1/1000 in PBS/2% Marvel/0.05% Tween and 50µl was added per well. Plates were incubated at 37°C in a shaking incubator for 60mins.

Antibody was discarded down the sink and plates were washed 6 times by immersion in PBS/0.05% Tween.

Substrate (SigmaFast OPD) was prepared in advance by dissolving 1 urea tablet in 20mL water. 1 OPD tablet was added to the urea solution just prior to use (NB. OPD was light sensitive) and vortexed to mix. 50µl of substrate was added per well.

5 The reaction was stopped by addition of 25µl/well of 20% sulphuric acid, once sufficient colour had developed but while cell control background was still low (~5 minutes).

Plates were read on a SpectraMax (Molecular Devices) spectrophotometer at wavelength 490nm and utilize the SOFTmax Pro software package.

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The wells were emptied, washed in tap water and the monolayers stained with 50µ1/well of 2% crystal violet in 20% methanol/water for at least 1 hour. The wells were then washed and air-dried and the monolayers examined under the microscope for indications of cell toxicity.

15 Results

SOFTmax data files were exported to Excel. Data handling used Excel templates written inhouse for plotting dose response curves graphically and calculating IC50 values from the curves obtained.

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All replicate wells were meaned. The assay window was calculated by subtracting the meaned cell control (CC) from the meaned virus control (VC). For each compound, the meaned CC was subtracted from the meaned values for each concentration point. The % of control was then calculated for each concentration point as a percentage of the window.

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% of control was plotted against compound concentration. A straight line was fitted to the curve and the slope and intercept functions were used to calculate the IC50.

The IC50 for Compound "A" was calculated for each background concentration of Compound "B". Similarly, the IC50 for Compound "B" was calculated for each background concentration of Compound "A".

5 (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea (Compound A) in combination with the 1-isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one (Compound B1)

Compound A has an ELISA IC50 of $2\mu M$ against the RSV RSS strain.

10 Compound B has an ELISA IC50 of 0.5μM against the RSV-RSS strain.

In combination, at concentrations of Compound A below its IC50 (1, 0.3, 0.1 μ M) the IC50 of Compound B1 is reduced from 0.5 μ M to at least 0.16 μ M (3.2-fold decrease). At concentrations of Compound B1 below its IC50 (0.3, 0.1 μ M) the IC50 of Compound A is reduced from 2 μ M to at least 0.65 μ M (3-fold decrease).

(S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea (Compound B) in combination with 1-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one (Compound A)

Compound B has an ELISA IC50 of 1.4µM against the RSV RSS strain.

Compound A has an ELISA IC50 of 0.015µM against the RSV RSS strain.

In combination, at concentrations of Compound B below its IC50 (1, 0.3, 0.1, 0.03μM), the IC50 of Compound A is reduced from 0.015μM to at least 0.0007μM (21.4-fold decrease). At concentrations of Compound A below its IC50 (0.01, 0.003, 0.001, 0.0003μM) the IC50 of compound B is reduced from 1.4μM to at least 0.26μM (5.4-fold decrease).

The formula below can be used to identify a synergistic interaction.

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FIC = Fractional Inhibitory concentration

Compares the activity of a compound in combination (Compound A + Compound B) with the activity of the compound alone (Compound A or Compound B).

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$$FIC = \underline{Lowest\ IC50\ Cpd\ A^{COMBINATION}} + \underline{Lowest\ IC50\ Cpd\ B^{COMBINATION}}$$

$$IC50\ Cpd\ A^{ALONE} \qquad IC50\ Cpd\ B^{ALONE}$$

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where FIC value

< 0.5

SYNERGY

0.5 - 1.0

ADDITION

1.0 - 2.0

INDIFFERENCE

>2.0

ANTAGONISM

15

FIC for (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea in combination with the 1-isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one: <0.25

FIC for (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea (Compound B) in combination with 1-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one: <0.04

Example 10

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HCV replicon activity

Cells used:

HCV replicon cells Huh 9B (ReBlikon), containing the firefly luciferase – ubiquitin – neomycin phosphotransferase fusion protein and EMCV-IRES driven HCV polyprotein with cell culture adaptive mutations.

5 Cell culture conditions

Cells were cultured at 37° C in a 5% CO₂ environment and split twice a week on seeding at 2 x 10E6 cells/flask on day 1 and 1 x 10E6 3 days later. G418 at 0.5mg/ml was added to the culture medium but not the assay medium.

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The culture medium consisted of DMEM with 4500g/l glucose and glutamax (Gibco 61965-026) supplemented with 1 x non-essential amino acids (Invitrogen 11140-035), penicillin (100 IU/ml) / streptomycin (100 μ g/ml) (Invitrogen 15140-122), FCS (10%, 50ml) and 1 mg/ml G418 (Invitrogen 10131-027) & 10 % Australian foetal calf serum (Invitrogen 10099-141).

Assay procedure

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A flask of cells was trypsinised and a cell count carried out. Cells were diluted to 100,000 cells/ml and 100 μl of this used to seed one opaque white 96-well plate (for the replicon assay) and one flat-bottomed clear plate (for the tox assay) for every seven compounds to be tested for IC50. Wells G12 and H12 were left empty in the clear plate as the blank. Plates were then incubated at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ environment for 24 h.

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On the following day compound dilutions are made up in medium at twice their desired final concentration in a clear round bottomed plate. All dilutions have a final DMSO concentration of 1%.

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Once the dilution plate had been made up, controls and compounds were transferred to the assay plate (containing the cells) at 100µl /well in duplicate plates.

Exception: no compound was added to wells A1 and A2 of either plate and 100□1 of 1% DMSO was added to these instead. Plates were then incubated at 37°C with 5% CO₂ for 72h.

- At the end of the incubation time, the cells in the white plate were harvested by washing with 200 μl/ well of warm (37°C) PBS and lysed with 20 μl cell culture lysis buffer (1mM dithiothreitol (Sigma 150460), 8mM MgCl2 (Sigma M9272), in 25mM Tris-phosphate (Sigma) buffer pH 7.8 with 1% Triton (Sigma T-8787), 15% glycerol (Sigma G2025) added) Meanwhile, Substrate (13.5mM coenzyme A (Sigma C-3019), 23.5mM beetle luciferin (Promega E1603), 26mM ATP (Sigma O-2060) in 100nM Tris buffer pH 7.8 aliquoted and stored at -80C was thawed and diluted 1:50 in luciferase assay buffer (20mM Tricine (Sigma T-0377), 1.07mM magnesium carbonate hydroxide (Sigma M-5671), 0.1mM EDTA (Sigma E-5134), 2.67mM MgSO₄ (BDH 101514Y), 33.3mM dithiothreitol (Sigma 150460) pH 7.8)
- The M injector of the microplate luminometer (Lmax, Molecular Devices) was primed with 5 x 300 □ l injections of the diluted substrate. After 5-60 min incubation in lysis buffer @ RT, a plate was inserted into the luminometer and 100 μl luciferase assay reagent was added by the injector on the luminometer. The signal was measured using a 1 second delay followed by a 4 second measurement programme. The IC50, the concentration of the drug required for reducing the replicon level by 50% in relation to the untreated cell control value, can be calculated from the plot of the percentage reduction of the luciferase activity vs. drug concentration.
- The clear plate was stained with 100□1 0.5% methylene blue in 50% ethanol at RT for 1h, followed by solvation of the absorbed methylene blue in 100 µl per well of 1% lauroylsarcosine. Absorbance of the plate was measured on a microplate spectrophotometer (Molecular Devices) and the absorbance for each concentration of compound expressed as a proportion of the relative DMSO control. The TD50, the concentration of drug required to reduce the total cell area by 50% relative to the DMSO controls can be calculated by plotting

the absorbance at 620nm minus background vs drug concentration.

| Compound | REPLICON | REPLICON |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | IC50 | TD50 · |
| | Values | Values |
| N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro- | 7 | 43 |
| 1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-4- | | |
| trifluoromethoxy-benzamide | | |
| (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo- | 24 | >50 |
| 5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- | | |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea | | |
| · | 20 | 26 |
| (S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo- | | - |
| 5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- | | |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | |
| benzamide | · | |
| 1-(Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(1-methyl-2- | | |
| oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- | | |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea | 5.0 | 52.0 |
| Furan-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro- | | · |
| 2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- | | |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide | 6.5 | >50 |
| 2-Methoxy-N-methyl-4-nitro-N- | | |
| (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- | | |
| benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- | | - |
| benzamide | 10.0 | 42.0 |

CLAIMS

- 1. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and:
 - (a) an inhibitor of the RSV fusion protein; and
 - (b) a benzodiazepine derivative capable of inhibiting RSV replication.
- 2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a compound of formula (V), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

$$(R^3)_n \xrightarrow{R^2} O$$

$$N \xrightarrow{N} R^5$$

$$R^1 \qquad (V)$$

wherein:

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- R¹ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;
- R^2 represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- each R³ is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, -CO₂R′, -CONR′R″, -NH-CO-R′, -S(O)R′, -S(O)₂R′, -NH-S(O)₂R′, -S(O)NR′R″ or -S(O)₂NR′R″, wherein each R′ and R″ is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- 20 n is from 0 to 3;
 - R⁴ represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
 - R⁵ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl)-,

heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)-, carbocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heterocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶;

- X represents -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-; and
- R⁶ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl,

 carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-,

 carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein each R[']

 and R^{''} is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl,

 heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl
 (C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-.
 - 3. A composition according to claim 2 wherein:
 - each R³ is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, -CO₂R', -CONR'R", -NH-CO-R', -S(O)R', -S(O)₂R', -NH-S(O)₂R' or -S(O)NR'R", wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
 - R⁵ represents C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl- $(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)- or -XR⁶;
- 20 X represents -CO-, -S(O)- or $-S(O)_2$ -; and
 - R⁶ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or -NR[']R^{''} wherein each R['] and R^{''} is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-.
 - 4. A composition according to either claim 2 or claim 3, wherein R^1 is C_{1-2} alkyl or aryl.
 - 5. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 4 wherein R² is hydrogen.

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- 6. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein \mathbb{R}^3 is halogen, hydroxy, \mathbb{C}_{1-4} alkyl, \mathbb{C}_{1-4} alkoxy, \mathbb{C}_{1-4} alkylthio, \mathbb{C}_{1-4} haloalkyl, \mathbb{C}_{1-4} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(\mathbb{C}_{1-4} alkyl)amino or di(\mathbb{C}_{1-4} alkyl)amino.
- 5 7. A composition according to claim 6, wherein R³ is fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ alkoxy, C₁₋₂ alkylthio, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino or di (C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino.
- 8. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 7 wherein R⁴ is hydrogen or C₁₋₂ alkyl.
 - 9. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 8 wherein R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-, aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶.
 - 10. A composition according to claim 9, wherein R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, phenyl- $(C_{1-2}$ alkyl)-, heteroaryl- $(C_{1-2}$ alkyl)-, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶.
 - 11. A composition according to claim 10, wherein R⁵ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzothienyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, phenyl-CH₂-, furanyl-CH₂-, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶.
- 25 12. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 11 wherein X is -CO- or -S(O)₂-.
 - 13. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 12 wherein, when R^6 is a group NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)- or heteroaryl- $(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-.

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- 14. A composition according to claim 13, wherein when R^6 is a group -NR'R" each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclopexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-CH₂-.
- 5 15. A composition according to claim 14, wherein when R⁶ is a group -NR'R" and one of R' and R" is hydrogen.
- 16. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 15 wherein R⁶ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)-O- or -NR[/]R^{//}.
- 17. A composition according to claim 16, wherein R⁶ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocycly, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)- O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₂ hydroxyalkyl)- or -NR'R".
- 20 18. A composition according to claim 17, wherein R⁶ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-CH₂-CH(OH)-, phenyl-CH(OH)-CH₂-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O-, 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl or -NR[/]R^{//}.
 - 19. A composition according to any one of the claims 2 to 18 wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (Va):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R2 & O \\
N & N - R5 \\
N & R4
\end{array}$$
(Va)

wherein:

- R¹ is phenyl or methyl;
- 5 R³ is methyl or chlorine;
 - n is 0 or 1;
 - R⁴ is hydrogen or methyl;
 - R⁵ is phenyl-CH₂-, furanyl-CH₂-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -XR⁶;
 - $X \text{ is -CO- or -S(O)}_2$ -; and
- 10 R⁶ is C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-CH₂-CH(OH)-phenyl-CH(OH)-CH₂-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O-, 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl or -NR'R" wherein each R' and R" is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-(CH₂)-, the phenyl moiety in the group R¹ being unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluorine, chlorine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ alkoxy, C₁₋₂ alkylthio, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl or C₁₋₂ haloalkoxy substituent;
- the aryl moieties in the groups R⁵ and R⁶ being unsubstituted or substituted by 1,2 or 3 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₂₋₄ acyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino, nitro, -CO₂R⁷, -S(O)₂R⁷ and -S(O)₂NH₂, wherein R⁷ represents C₁₋₂ alkyl;

the heteroaryl moieties in the groups R⁵ and R⁶ being unsubstituted or substituted

25 by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl and di(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino; and

the heterocyclyl and carbocyclyl moieties in the R^6 group being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro.

5 20. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is:

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid 2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

3-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

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2-Methoxy N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-trifluoromethyl-benzamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]
diazepin-3-yl)-3-amide;

Furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Morpholine-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

4-Nitro- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 3-Nitro- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Methyl-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid -(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

3,4-Dichloro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-trifluoromethylbenzamide;

5 4-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

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2-Methyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

2-Nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

(S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide

Benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

2,3-Dihydro-benzofuran-5-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Isoxazole-5-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Thiophen-3-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1;4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isonicotinamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-nicotinamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-methanesulfonamide;

| | Propane-1-sulfonic acid-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dinydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3- |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | yl)-amide; |
| | Butane-1-sulfonic acid(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3- |
| | yl)-amide; |
| 5 | 2-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| | benzenesulfonamide; |
| | 3-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| | benzenesulfonamide; |
| | 4-Bromo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| 10 | benzenesulfonamide; |
| | 2-Fluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| | benzenesulfonamide; |
| | 3-(2-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| | 3-(3-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| 15 | 3-(4-Nitro-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| | 3-(2-Methoxy-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| | 3-(3-Methoxy-benzylamino)-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| | 5-Phenyl-3-(2-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2- |
| | one; |
| 20 | 5-Phenyl-3-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2- |
| | one; |
| | 5-Phenyl-3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylamino)-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2- |
| | one; |
| | 3-[(Furan-2-ylmethyl)-amino]-5-phenyl-1,3-dihydro-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-one; |
| 25 | N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide |
| | N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| | isobutyramide; |
| | N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)- |
| | methanesulfonamide; |
| 30 | Furan-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] |

diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

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Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-methoxy-benzamide;

N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-4-methoxy-benzamide;

N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-nitro-benzamide;

2-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

2-(3-Nitro-phenyl)N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide;

1-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

1-(2-Nitro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5 urea; 1-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-p-tolyl-urea; 1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-10 urea; (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 15 (S)- 4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; (S)- 5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo $\lceil e \rceil \lceil 1,4 \rceil$ 20 diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)- 6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 25 (S)-2-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-4-

2,4,5-Trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-

trifluoromethyl-benzamide;

benzamide;

(S)-2,4,5-Trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2-Hydroxy- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; (S)-2-Hydroxy- N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 1H-Indole-7-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)-1H-Indole-7-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 3-Methoxy-naphthalene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)-3-Methoxy-naphthalene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; N-[7-Chloro-5-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepine-3yl]-4-methoxoy-benzamide; 1-(2-Fluoro-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; urea; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-urea; 4-Chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-

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yl)-benzamide;

yl)benzamide;

3-Methoxy-2-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Methoxy-3-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-

5-Chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)benzamide; 5-Fluoro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5 benzamide; 5-Methoxy-2-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 3-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-10 benzamide; 3-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)propionamide; 3-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide; 3-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] 15 diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-2methoxy-benzamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-20 4-methoxy-benzamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-2-nitro-benzamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-4-nitro-benzamide; 4-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] 25 [1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 4-Methoxy-N-[2-oxo-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide; 30

2-Ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2,4-Dimethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 2-Bromo-5-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-[5-(3-mehtoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-benzamide N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-4-nitro-benzamide; 2-Methoxy-N-(8-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)-benzamide; 2-Chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 2-Dimethylamino-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid benzyl ester; 1-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(4trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-urea; 1-(4-Bromo-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2.3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(4-Bromo-benzyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-· urea; 1-(2,3-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

1-(2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]

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diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

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methyl ester;

 $1\hbox{-}(2\hbox{-}Chloro\hbox{-}6\hbox{-}methyl\hbox{-}phenyl)\hbox{-}3\hbox{-}(2\hbox{-}oxo\hbox{-}5\hbox{-}phenyl\hbox{-}2,3\hbox{-}dihydro\hbox{-}1H\hbox{-}benzo[e]$ [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea; urea; 1-(2-Methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 5-tert-Butyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 2,5-Dimethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; 1-(2,6-Difluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea; urea; 1-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-urea; 1-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)urea; 2-Methoxy-4-methylsulfanyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide; 4-Methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)benzamide; N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)terephthalamic acid

2-Fluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

2,6-Difluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-

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benzamide;
             N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-propoxy-
      benzamide;
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             2-Iodo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
             3-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
      terephthalamic acid methyl ester;
             4-Amino-5-chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e]
      [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
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             1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-m-tolyl-urea;
             2-Methylsulfanyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-
      benzamide;
           2-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5-
      sulfamoyl-benzamide;
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             2-Hydroxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-
      phenyl-propionamide
             3-Hydroxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-
      phenyl-propionamide;
             3-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-1-methyl-1-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]
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      diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
             2-Methoxy-N-methyl-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]
      diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;
             1-tert-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
             1-Cycloheyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
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             1-Ethyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
             1-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
            4,5-Dimethyl-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e]
     [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)amide;
            Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e]
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     [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
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N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yl)acetamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]isobutyramide; Furan-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3yllisonicotinamide; 5-Methyl-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; Pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide; Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide; Piperidine-4-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-

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Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (8-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] 30 [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (8-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-

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ester;

ester;

ester; and

[1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-thiophene-2-ylurea; 1-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-3-thiophene-3-ylurea; Pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 1H-Pyrazole-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 6-Dimethylamino-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)nicotinamide; 2-Ethoxy-naphthalene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 9-Oxo-9H-fluorene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; 2-Oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazole-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)carbamic acid tert-butyl ester; (S)-4,5-Dibromo-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1Hbenzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide; (S)-Benzofuran-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e]

(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid methyl

(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid ethyl

(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid isobutyl

2-Oxo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-thiophene-2-yl-acetamide.

- 21. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 20, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is 1-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea, 2-methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide and 4-methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide.
- 22. A composition according to claim 21, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is 1-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea.
- 23. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein component
 15 (a) is a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

$$\begin{array}{c|c} R3 \\ R1 \\ C \\ H \\ X \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Z \\ Q \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} Q \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}$$

wherein:

- 20 X is a direct link or C₁₋₆ alkyl; said C₁₋₆ alkyl being optionally substituted with halogen, oxo, cyano, hydroxyl, OCOR₄ or S(O)n-C₁₋₆ alkyl;
 - Y is R_4 , NR_4R_5 , $NCOR_4$, =N-OR₄, -CONHR₄, COOR₄, -OR₄, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl or heterocyclyl, where R_4 and R_5 are H or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- Z is CR₆R₇, where R₆ and R₇ are independently H, or straight, branched or cyclic C₁₋₆ alkyl;

- n is 1-2;
- R₁ is CONR₄R₅, CO₂R₄ or C₁₋₆ alkyl, said C₁₋₆ alkyl can be optionally substituted with OR₄ or NR₈R₉;
- R₈ and R₉ are each independently H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, SO₂R₅, CO₂R₄ or COR₄;
- R₂ is selected from the group consisting of NH₂, CONR₆R₇, heteroaryl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, CO₂R₄, N=CPh₂, C(=NH)NH₂ and C₁₋₆ alkyl; said alkyl optionally substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂R₄ and OR₄;
 - R₁₀ and R₁₁ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, CO₂R₄, COR₄ and SO₂R₄;
 - R₃ is selected from the group consisting of (1) CO₂R₉; (2) C₁₋₆ alkyl optionally substituted with CN, OR₄ or NR₆R₇; and (3) C₂₋₆ alkenyl substituted with CN;
 - Q is a member selected from the group consisting of

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A is C or N, optionally substituted with H, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, cyano-C₁₋₆ alkyl, CO₂R₄, aryl, benzoaminocarbonyl, hydroxybenzyl, SO₂NR₄R₅ or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl.

Where A is carbon, it may also be optionally substituted by O or S via a double bond;

B is C or N; where B is C it may be optionally substituted by H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, NO₂, CN, halogen, COR₄, COOR₄, CONHR₄C(=NH)NH₂ or C(=NOH)NH₂.

24. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 22, wherein component (a) is a compound of the formula (Ia), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

Wherein

- B, X and Y are as described in formula (I) above
- D is cyclopropyl, ethyl, 4-cyanobutyl, isopropenyl, methylsulfonyl, dimethylsulfamoyl, benzylaminocarbamoyl or para-hydroxybenzyl.
- 25. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 22, wherein component (a) is a compound of the formula (II), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

$$R2$$
 $R1$
 $Z-Y-N$
 $R3$
 (II)

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wherein:

- X is C or N;
- R₁ is C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, phenyl or $(CH_2)_m = NH_2$;
- 15 R_2 is C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkoxy-phenyl;
 - R_3 is C_{1-6} alkyl;
 - Y is C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkenyl;
 - Z is H, NR4, -C(=O)-R5, -C(=CH2)-R5, -CH(OH)-R5, -CH(CH3)-R5, -CH(OCH3)-R5;
 - R_4 is H, C_{1-6} alkyl.
- 20 R₅ is C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl

m=1-6.

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- 26. A composition according to anyone of claims 1 to 22, wherein component (a) is:
- 1-Cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one
 - {2-[2-(1,2-Dihydro-benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]]ethyl}-diethyl-amine
 - {2-[2-(3-Iodo-2,3-dihydro-indazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzimidazol-1-yl]-ethyl}-dimethyl-amine
- 10 1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one
 - 1-(4-Hydroxy-benzyl)-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one
 - 1-Isopropenyl-3-[1-(3-oxo-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one
 - 1-Ethyl-3-[1-(2-hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one
 - 1-Ethyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-2-one
- 7-[2-(3-Isopropenyl-2-oxo-2,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]-heptanenitril
 - 5-{3-[1-(3-Methanesulfonyl-propyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-yl}-pentanenitrile
 - 3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-1-carboxylic acid benzylamide
 - 1-Methanesulfonyl-3-[1-(3-methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-2-one
 - 3-[1-(3-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzoimidazol-1-sulfonic acid dimethylamide

1-Isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one

Bis(5-amidino-2-benzimidazolyl)-methane

 $2-\{2-[1-[1-(2-Amino-ethyl)-piperidin-4-ylamino]-4-methyl-benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl\}-6-methyl-pyridin-3-ol$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 27. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein component (a) is 1-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one, {2-[2-(1,2-dihydro-benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl]ethyl}-diethyl-amine, {2-[2-(3-iodo-2,3-dihydro-indazol-1-ylmethyl)-benzimidazol-1-yl]ethyl}-dimethyl-amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 28. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein component (a) is 1-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(4-hydroxy-butyl)-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one or 1-Isopropenyl-3-(1-propyl-1H-benzoimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine-2-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 29. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein component (a) is present in an amount of from 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%.
 - 30. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein component (b) is present in an amount of 0.025 wt% to 10 wt%.
- 25 31. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims, for use in the treatment of the human or animal body.
 - 32. Use of:

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(a) an RSV fusion protein inhibitor as defined in any one of claims 1 and 21 to 28; and

- (b) a benzodiazepine derivative defined in any one of claims 1 to 22, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection.
- 33. Use according to claim 31, wherein the medicament is a composition as defined in 5 claim 29 or 30.
 - 34. A product comprising:
 - (a) an RSV fusion protein inhibitor as defined in any one of claims 1 and 21 to 28; and
- 10 (b) a benzodiazepine derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 22; for separate, simultaneous or sequential use in the treatment of the human or animal body.
 - 35. A product according to claim 34 for separate, simultaneous or sequential use in treating or preventing an RSV infection.
 - 36. A method of treating or preventing an RSV infection in a patient, which method comprises the administration to said patient of:
 - (a) an RSV fusion protein inhibitor as defined in any one of claims 1 and 21 to 28; and
 - (b) a benzodiazepine derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 22.
 - 37. Use of an RSV fusion protein inhibitor as defined in any one of claims 1 and 21 to 28, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection, by co-administration with a benzodiazepine derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 22.
 - 38. Use of a benzodiazepine derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 22, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an RSV infection, by coadministration with an RSV fusion protein inhibitor as defined in any one of claims 1 and 21 to 28.

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- 39. Use of a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V), as defined in any one of claims 2 to 22, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in treating or preventing an HCV infection
- 5 40. Use according to claim 39 wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V) is: N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-N'-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzyl)-urea
 - (S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea
- 10 (S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide
 - 1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H- benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-urea
 - Furan-2-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-amide, or

- 2-Methoxy-N-methyl-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4] diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide.
- 41. A method of treating or preventing an HCV infection in a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (V), as defined in any one of claims 2 to 22 and 40, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

ABSTRACT

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THERAPEUTIC COMPOUNDS

A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and:

- (a) an inhibitor of the RSV fusion protein; and
- 10 (b) a benzodiazepine derivative capable of inhibiting RSV replication is found to be highly active against RSV. Further, the specific benzodiazepine derivatives of the formula (V)

$$(R^3)_{n} \xrightarrow{R^2} O$$

$$N \xrightarrow{N} R^5$$

$$R^1 \qquad (V)$$

wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are organic residues and n is 0 to 3, are active against HCV.

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